

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: Chairman Wanda Grinde, on March 18, 2009 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 137 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Wanda Grinde, Chairman (D)
Rep. Mark Blasdel, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Robin Hamilton, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Russell Bean (R)
Rep. Paul Beck (D)
Rep. Joel Boniek (R)
Rep. Dee Brown (R)
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)
Rep. John Fleming (D)
Rep. Bob Lake (R)
Rep. Sue Malek (D)
Rep. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Rep. Bob Wagner (R)
Rep. Ted Washburn (R)
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: Rep. Frosty Boss Ribs (D)

Staff Present: Debbie Carlson, Committee Secretary
Jeremy Gersovitz, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 80, 3/11/2009; SB 81, 3/11/2009;
SJ 3, 3/11/2009; SB 485, 3/11/2009

Executive Action: None

00:00:50 Chairman Grinde

HEARING ON SJ 3

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:21 Sen. Rick Laible (R), SD 44, opened the hearing on SJ 3, Interim study to consider establishment of Montana Scholarship Program.

EXHIBIT (edh60a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:10:06 Bill Shilling, President, Wyoming Business Alliance, Wyoming Heritage Alliance

EXHIBIT (edh60a02)

00:15:14 Kelly Chapman, Executive Vice President, Student Assistance Foundation

00:16:20 Web Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:17:34 Robin Graham, Chief Financial Officer, Montana Student Assistance Foundation

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:18:09 Rep. Brown

00:18:35 Mr. Shilling

00:19:01 Rep. Brown

00:19:17 Mr. Shilling

00:19:35 Rep. Brown

00:19:52 Sen. Laible

00:20:30 Rep. Brown

00:20:45 Sen. Laible

00:21:15 Rep. Brown

00:21:41 Sen. Laible

00:22:52 Bob Runkel, Office of Public Instruction

00:23:01 Rep. Brown

00:23:25 Mr. Runkel

00:23:39 Rep. Butcher

00:24:48 Mr. Shilling

00:25:27 Rep. Butcher

00:26:23 Mr. Shilling

00:27:15 Rep. Washburn

00:27:40 Sen. Laible

00:28:29 Rep. Washburn

00:29:10 Chairman Grinde
00:29:20 Rep. Washburn
00:29:33 Sen. Laible
00:31:42 Rep. Washburn
00:31:59 Sen. Laible
00:34:03 Rep. Malek
00:34:35 Sen. Laible
00:36:39 Rep. Butcher
00:37:08 Sen. Laible
00:38:14 Rep. Butcher
00:38:49 Sen. Laible

Closing by Sponsor:

00:40:01 Sen. Laible

HEARING ON SB 81

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:41:54 Sen. Dan McGee (R), SD 29, opened the hearing on SB 81,
Elect Board of Public Education.

[EXHIBIT \(edh60a03\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:58:17 Elaine Herman, Eagle Forum

[EXHIBIT \(edh60a04\)](#)

01:03:09 Becky Stockton, Helena, Montana

[EXHIBIT \(edh60a05\)](#)

01:05:21 Susie Stewart, Helena, Montana

01:05:35 Dallas Erickson, Missoula, Montana

01:06:13 Harris Himes, Pastor, Big Sky Christian Center,
Hamilton, Montana

01:08:43 Constance Brown, Helena, Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

01:10:45 Steve Meloy, Executive Director, Montana Board of
Education

[EXHIBIT \(edh60a06\)](#)

01:12:55 Sheila Stearns, Commissioner of Higher Education

01:15:03 Bob Runkel, Office of Public Instruction

01:16:23 Eric Feaver, MEA/MFT

01:19:45 Bob Vogel, Montana School Boards Association

01:20:26 Callen Alger, Montana Rural Education Association

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:20:49 Rep. Brown
01:21:36 Mr. Meloy
01:21:57 Rep. Brown
01:22:17 Mr. Feaver
01:23:21 Rep. Wagner
01:23:37 Mr. Feaver
01:24:37 Rep. Wagner
01:25:02 Mr. Feaver
01:26:10 Rep. Wagner
01:26:21 Mr. Feaver
01:26:29 Rep. Boniek
01:26:59 Sen. McGee
01:29:37 Rep. Washburn
01:29:57 Sen. McGee
01:30:05 Rep. Washburn
01:30:19 Sen. McGee
01:30:28 Rep. Butcher
01:31:03 Sen. McGee
01:31:16 Rep. Butcher
01:32:06 Sen. McGee
01:32:47 Rep. Butcher
01:33:06 Sen. McGee

Closing by Sponsor:

01:33:26 Sen. McGee

HEARING ON SB 80

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:37:47 Sen. Dan McGee (R), SD 29, opened the hearing on SB 80,
Elect Board of Regents.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:40:02 Becky Stockton, Helena, Montana
01:41:30 Harris Himes, Pastor, Big Sky Christian Center
01:42:59 Dallas Erickson, Missoula, Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

01:43:35 Sheila Stearns, Commissioner of Higher Education
01:54:17 Marco Ferro, MEA/MFT
01:55:03 Mitch Jessen, Student Regent, Board of Regents
01:56:23 Steve Meloy, Executive Director, Montana Board of
Education

01:57:42 Bob Runkel, Office of Public Instruction

01:58:06 Lucas Hamilton, Associated Students of the University
of Montana

[EXHIBIT](#) (edh60a07)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:59:07 Rep. Wilmer
01:59:38 Ms. Stockton
01:59:51 Rep. Wilmer
02:00:32 Ms. Stearns
02:02:00 Rep. Wilmer
02:02:36 Ms. Stearns
02:03:57 Rep. Wilmer
02:04:30 Ms. Stearns
02:04:41 Rep. Wagner
02:05:37 Sen. McGee
02:06:32 Rep. Wagner
02:07:39 Mr. Ferro
02:07:59 Rep. Wagner
02:08:45 Mr. Ferro
02:10:15 Rep. Wagner
02:11:30 Mr. Ferro
02:11:45 Rep. Wagner
02:11:56 Mr. Ferro
02:12:09 Ms. Stearns

Closing by Sponsor:

02:12:40 Sen. McGee

HEARING ON SB 485

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:18:28 Sen. Carol Juneau (D), SD 8, opened the hearing on SB
485, Financial literacy pilot program.

[EXHIBIT](#) (edh60a08)

Proponents' Testimony:

02:24:09 Angie Main, Native American Community Development
Corporation
02:29:32 Clyde Daily, Montana Credit Union Network

02:32:01 Marco Ferro, MEA/MFT
02:32:23 Bob Vogel, Montana School Boards Association

02:35:09 Paul Andrews, Director of Public Policy, Rural
Dynamics, Inc., Great Falls, Montana
02:36:34 Steve Turkiewicz, President, Montana Bankers
Association
02:37:42 Bob Runkel, Office of Public Instruction

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:41:18 Rep. Bean
02:41:59 Mr. Runkel
02:42:12 Rep. Bean
02:42:18 Mr. Runkel
02:43:01 Rep. Wagner
02:44:23 Sen. Juneau
02:44:57 Rep. Wagner
02:45:04 Sen. Juneau
02:45:42 Rep. Wagner
02:46:35 Sen. Juneau
02:47:43 Ms. Main
02:48:57 Rep. Washburn
02:50:05 Mr. Runkel
02:50:46 Rep. Washburn
02:51:27 Mr. Runkel
02:51:59 Rep. Washburn
02:52:22 Chairman Grinde
02:52:37 Rep. Washburn
02:52:50 Mr. Runkel
02:53:34 Rep. Boniek
02:54:17 Sen. Juneau
02:54:49 Ms. Main
02:55:46 Rep. Wilmer
02:56:27 Mr. Runkel
02:57:23 Rep. Wilmer
02:57:39 Mr. Runkel
02:58:18 Rep. Wilmer
02:58:51 Mr. Runkel
02:59:55 Rep. Wilmer
03:00:13 Mr. Runkel
03:00:38 Rep. Wilmer
03:00:52 Mr. Runkel

Closing by Sponsor:

03:01:26 Sen. Juneau

03:02:21 Chairman Grinde

ADJOURNMENT

03:03:33 Adjournment: 6:03 P.M.

Debbie Carlson, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([edh60aad.pdf](#))